

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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COUNTRY Colombia/USSR

SUBJECT Colombian—Soviet Diplometic Relations Info.

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Letter of 16 October 1973 from **PAGES*

Director of Central Intelligance in Supplement

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- Since the return of General Domingo Espinel, last Colombian minister to one USSR, in November 1946, repeated stories have been circulated dealing with the indignities he suffered during his brief stay in the Soviet Union. Because of this, repeated predictions have been made stating that the Colombian Government considered breaking off, or at least "cooling off," diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.
- Colombian representation in the Soviet Union now consists of only one man, of comparatively low rank, who spends most of his time vacationing in Sweden.
- 3. The Soviet Diplomatic Mission in Colombia has been steadily reduced during the past year and now totals only three. The remaining Soviet officials do not know whether any additional personnel will be sent to replace those she have returned to the Soviet Union.
- 4. The Russian Officials remaining in Colombia seldom leave the Legation and do not encourage visitors as in the past. They appear to trust no one and are maintaining maximum security precautions. The Colombian Government has the Russian Legation and its personnel under constant surveillance, a fact apparently known to the Russians. Consequently the Russians do not feel free to move about as they please, although no restrictions are attached to their movements by the Colombian Government.

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